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23 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles

Reference here is to Henry Barrowe, one of the founders of Congregationalism in England, who was executed for non-conformism in 1593.

As I freely interpret the quotation it is an appeal to the authorities on the basis of reason to slack off on their persecution of non-conformists. Its gist is: we are not yet persuaded that the cause of non-conformism is wrong but oppression and its miseries are not the ways to persuade honest men.


STAT who forwards this to you is in FE Division. It may be that he is made a little light headed by the weather or it may be that the weather has clouded my own perception but I fail to see the pertinence of the quotation. The best I can say is that it appears to be a plea for psychological warfare as against political warfare.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Allen Dulles, DDCI
FROM : 
SUBJECT: Policy Coordination

DATE: 17 May, 1951

1. Considering the basic policy under which we should operate in the conduct of political warfare, the following, written by Henry Barrow in London Gaol in 1588, seems pertinent, and I thought you might appreciate it:

"Deal tenderlie with tender consciences; we are yet persuaded that we should show ourselves disobedient and untruthful to our Master except we hold fast this (our) cause... Why should our adversaries wish to persuade the civil magistrates to deal with us by the sword and not by the word, by prisons and not by persuasions? As for fanged as, irons, close prison, torment, hunger, cold, want of means to maintain families - these may cause some to make shipwreck of a good conscience, or to lose their life, but they are not fit ways to persuade honest men to any truth or dissuade them from errors."

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